



## **Welcome to March Break Camp 2026!**

We are thrilled to welcome your child to an exciting, active, and engaging camp experience! Whether this is their first time at camp or they're returning for another adventure, our team is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and memorable environment for every camper. Please take a moment to review the attached information, and feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

For details about each specific camp, please visit our website at [pickering.ca/camps](http://pickering.ca/camps). You'll find helpful information such as introductions to your Camp Director, details about special guests, and much more.

### **Camper Pick-Up / Drop-Off**

Camp Hours: 9:00 am –4:00 pm.

- Walk your child to and from the designated Pick-Up / Drop-Off location and ensure they are checked in and out daily with camp staff.
- If someone else is picking up your child, please inform us in advance. Alternate pick-up individuals must present photo ID before your child is released.

### **Late Pick Up Fee**

A fee of \$20/15 min will be charged to the parent/guardian for all participants who are picked up late from camp. Fee will be added to ACTIVE Net Account.

### **Camp Locations**

Over March Break we will be offering camps all across the City:

#### **Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex Locations:**

- Mini Pidaca: Creative Centre
- Specialty Arts: Pottery Studio
- Sports Camp: East and West Salons
- YEC: Program Room C
- Arts Camp: O'Brien Rooms A & B (Please drive around to the Arena side of the building)
- Extenda Camp: East and West Salons

#### **Other Locations:**

- Adventure Camp: Highbush Public School - Gymnasium
- Sports Camp: Dunbarton High School – West Gymnasium
- Arts Camp: Eastshore Community Centre – Community Room

- Dance and Drama Camp: George Ashe Library and Community Centre – Franklin Room

**Weather Alert:** In case of severe weather, visit [pickering.ca](http://pickering.ca) (News & Announcements) or call **905.831.1711** for updates.

### **Absents/ Safe Arrivals**

If you know in advance that your child will be absent or late, please email us at [camps@pickering.ca](mailto:camps@pickering.ca) with your child's name and the date(s).

If you would rather leave a voicemail, please call 905.420.4660 ext. 3246. If a camper is absent without prior notification, we will attempt to contact the parents/guardians.

### **What to Bring to Camp Daily**

Campers should wear comfortable clothing and indoor running shoes suitable for a full day of active fun. Please do not send valuables, as campers are responsible for their own belongings. Be sure to pack weather-appropriate clothing for outdoor play (coat, hat, mittens, scarf), and an extra set of clothes is always a good idea. To help keep items from getting lost, please label all belongings, including lunch bags, water bottles, and extra clothing.

### **Lunch & Snacks**

Campers must bring their own **NUT-FREE lunch** each day, packed in **non-breakable containers** (no glass). Each day includes two snack times and a lunch break. Please send your child with a **reusable water bottle** to stay hydrated throughout the day. If staff are unsure about a snack's safety, it will not be allowed at camp. Fruits and vegetables are always a healthy, allergy-safe choice, and sending extra snacks is recommended.

### **Allergy Notice**

Please be mindful of food allergies, including life-threatening ones such as tree nut allergies. For everyone's safety, **do not pack tree nuts, tree nut products, or any items containing traces of nuts** in your child's lunch.

### **Respectful Conduct Policy**

The City of Pickering is committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment for both employees and customers. The Respectful Conduct policy addresses disrespectful behaviours from all patrons. Safety of our campers and staff are our number one priority. Failure to abide by the camp policies may lead to dismissal from the program. Please discuss the importance of safety with your child prior to the first day of camp.

### Lost and Found

Each camp will have their own specific Lost and Found bin stored until the end of the week. Any unclaimed items will be stored at the Lost and Found room at Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex. Parents who wish to inquire about any lost items can email the Camp Director or [camps@pickering.ca](mailto:camps@pickering.ca).

### Swimming

Swimming is available for campers in **CHDRC Arts & Sports Camp/YEC and Specialty Arts Camp (Thursday only)**. These camps will have the opportunity to swim at the **Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex HS** under the supervision of qualified lifeguards.

### Pool Guidelines:

- **Turtle Pool:** Campers aged 7 and under have priority. If the pool is full, they will wear a life jacket and swim in the shallow end of the large pool. A **2:1 counsellor-to-camper ratio** applies.
- **Older Campers (8–12 years):** A **4:1 counsellor-to-camper ratio** applies.

### Deep End Swim Test:

Campers aged 8–9 may take a swim test to access the deep end without a life jacket. To pass, they must **swim 10 meters and tread water for 30 seconds**. Campers who do not pass must wear a life jacket for the remainder of the week.

Even if a camper passes the test, a counsellor must accompany them in the deep end to maintain the **4:1 ratio**, so deep-end access may be limited. All decisions made by the lifeguard are final. Adherence to safety ratios means your child may not always be able to swim in the deep end.

### Themes For The Week:

Monday, March 16	Tuesday, March 17	Wednesday, March 18	Thursday, March 19	Friday, July March 20
<b>Orientation Day!</b>  Welcome to Camp!	<b>Superhero Day</b>  <i>Dress up as your favorite superhero and unleash your super powers!</i>	<b>Crazy Hat/Hair Day</b>  <i>Get wild with the wackiest hats or hairstyles you can imagine!</i>	<b>Disney Day</b>  <i>Step into a magical world by dressing as your favorite Disney character!</i>	<b>PJ and Stuffie Day</b>  <i>Get cozy in your comfiest pajamas and bring your favorite stuffed animal!</i>

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us directly via email at

[camps@pickering.ca](mailto:camps@pickering.ca)

We look forward to safe, fun and memorable March Break!

Your 2026 March Break Camp Staff